

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BELGRA 04263 241417Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----075309 241418Z /53
O 241356Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1177

S E C R E T BELGRADE 4263

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS YO ET US
SUBJ: ALLEGED YUGOSLAV TRANSFER OF M-47 TANKS TO ETHIOPIA.

REF: (A) BELGRADE 4252, (B) STATE 146935, (C) BELGRADE 4238,
(D) STATE 145552, (E) BELGRADE 3751

1. PURSUANT TO INSTRUCTIONS I MET WITH FONSEC MINIC TODAY
AT 1:15 PM, THE ONLY TIME OVER NEXT SEVERAL DAYS HE WOULD BE
ABLE TO SEE ME.

2. THIS BEING OUR INITIAL CONTACT, A BRIEF EXCHANGE OF
PLEASANTRIES PRECEDED BY FORMAL PRESENTATION. IN LATTER,
I MADE THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

-- ON INSTRUCTIONS OF MY GOVERNMENT I WAS APPROACHING
GOY ON A MATTER OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO OUR BILATERAL
RELATIONSHIP. THE USG HAS INFORMATION THAT M-47 TANKS
SUPPLIED BY THE USG TO YUGOSLAVIA UNDER MAP HAVE
APPARENTLY BEEN TRANSFERRED TO THE GOVERNMENT OF ETHIOPIA.

--IF THIS TRANSFER HAS IN FACT TAKEN PLACE, IT IS
APPARENT THAT IT IS A VIOLATION OF BILATERAL UNDER-
STANDINGS BETWEEN THE USG AND THE GOY WHICH REQUIRE THE
CONSENT OF THE USG TO SUCH A TRANSFER BEFORE IT CAN

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TAKE PLACE.

--I HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED TO ASK THE GOY IF
IT CAN CONFIRM THAT M-47 TANKS OBTAINED FROM THE USG
HAVE BEEN IN FACT TRANSFERRED TO ETHIOPIA.

3. MINIC ASSURED ME HE WOULD LOOK INTO THE QUESTION

AND GIVE ME AN ANSWER. HE THEN EMBARKED UPON A FAIRLY
LENGTHY, GENERAL DISCOURSE ON
GOY POLICY TOWARD ETHIOPIA AND YUGOSLAVIA'S PERCEPTION
OF THE SITUATION IN THAT COUNTRY. IN SO DOING HE
VOLUNTEERED NOTHING OF STARTLING IMPORT OR WHICH WE
HAVE NOT AS YET REPORTED.

4. UPON CONCLUSION OF MINIC'S REMARKS I AGAIN
EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF OUR OBTAINING AS SOON AS
POSSIBLE AN ANSWER TO THE QUESTION I HAD POSED. IN
RESPONSE MINIC REAFFIRMED THAT AN ANSWER WOULD BE
FORTHCOMING.

5. LONGER TELEGRAM TO FOLLOW.
EAGLEBURGER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC PROTESTS, MILITARY EQUIPMENT LOANS, TANKS (COMBAT VEHICLES), MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Reason:
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Office: ACTION SS
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Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
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